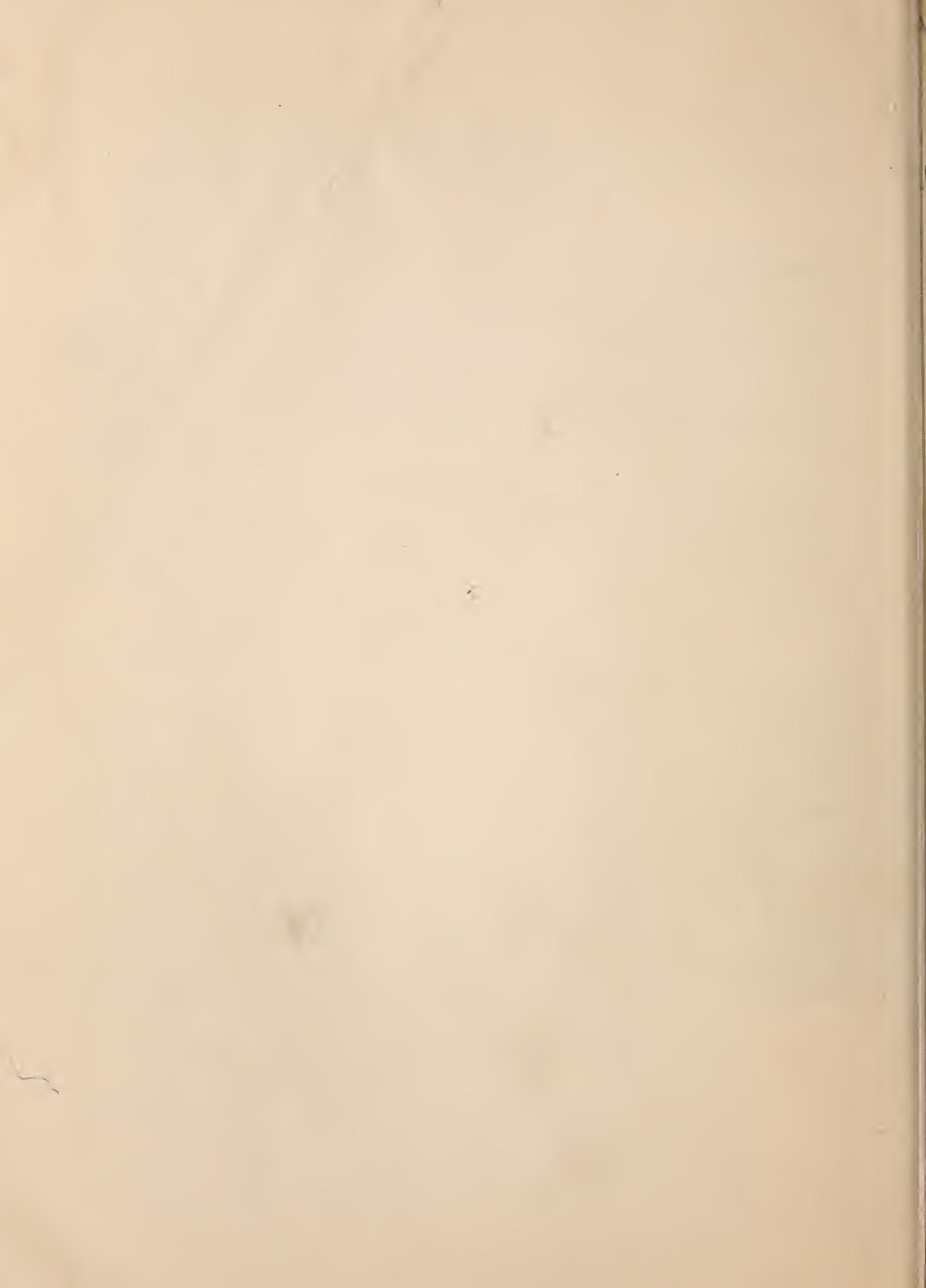


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# FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM  
POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS.  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 1, 1931

Vol. V, No. 1.

## THE HUMAN FACTOR IN AGRICULTURE.

The wind seems to be blowing toward a new recognition of the human factor in the economics of agriculture. Some straws point the way. For example, a farm management study is being made at one of the colleges of agriculture of the psychological characteristics of successful farmers; one of the leading agricultural economists, stationed at an agricultural college, recently said, "Psychology should be among the subjects taken by a graduate student in agricultural economics"; conferences of extension workers at colleges of agriculture are beginning to utilize the university psychologist in an attempt to know more adequately the farmer mind; German farm extension workers are being taught the "art of consultation," by analysis of the mental characteristics of farmers; the state outlook reports are quite largely aimed at introducing the farmer to a point of view from which he has a wider production and marketing horizon, demanding of him changing habits of thought on production, and frequently actual changes of habit in adjustment of production to market conditions; the Federal Farm Board addresses itself constantly to the problem of changing the American farmer's production and marketing point of view from the valley of extreme individualism to the mountain top of national cooperativeness.

These "straws" indicate that the economics of agriculture has arrived at a stage in its history when the puzzling problem is, "What will the farmers do?" Is this bewilderment a more or less naive confession of considerable ignorance among students of agriculture in regard to the sensitive psychic phenomenon, which, as a personality, presides over the farm-managing mechanism of each farm operator? Is it, perhaps, a recognition that the mind of the farmer, as a subject of scientific research, has not received adequate study? No college or university or experiment station has built up a staff of scientists upon the basic sciences of the man factor, - physiology, psychology, social psychology, ethics, etc. - to study the farmer, as, indeed, upon other basic sciences, - chemistry,

physics, botany, etc. - staffs of scientists, to study the land and capital factors. Does this mean that the principal actor in farming - factor we usually call the farmer - can not, in this age of world-wide influences, safely be assumed to act thus and so, and that he must be studied, even as soils, seeds, and markets?

Rural sociologists will be interested in this new trend, for they will desire to know their own peculiar responsibilities in the circumstances. Shall the rural sociologist attempt to "pinch hit" for the neurologist and psychologist; or shall he recognize that rural sociology, even as agricultural economics, must look to rural neuro-psychic specialists for basic data; or, until the arrival of such specialists, shall both sociologists and economists continue to use assumed mental facts of that most complex phenomenon, the man, in agriculture?

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#### CONFERENCE OF EXTENSION RURAL SOCIOLOGISTS.

At the call of Dr. C. B. Smith, Principal Agriculturalist and Chief of the Office of Cooperative Extension Work, a conference was held in Cleveland, Ohio, December 26 and 27, composed of Extension rural sociologists holding positions in various states. The purpose of the conference was to gain by discussion a viewpoint, a set of objectives, an esprit de corps, and an organization, for further discussion and development. The following objectives of rural sociology extension were finally agreed upon:

The general objectives in Agricultural Extension have been stated as ... "diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects relating to agriculture and home economics, and to encourage the application of the same." More adequate incomes, the cooperative spirit, the wise use of leisure time, and higher standards of life are the results to be desired.

Rural sociology extension contributes to the attainment of these general objectives by developing with rural people the science and art of living and of working in groups, through assisting them in:

1. Analyzing their larger community situations;
2. Thinking through the principles underlying their group relationships;
3. Discovering needed adjustments;
4. Planning for desired improvements;
5. Developing practical methods of procedure;
6. Applying these methods.

This development is concerned with individual adjustments and with such group adjustments as:

1. The family group in its inner and outer relationships;
2. Voluntary interest group relationships, (e.g. farmer clubs and associations, recreational groups, etc.);
3. Cooperative group relationships (e.g. membership morale);
4. Town and country relations;
5. Local governmental groups in relation to tax supported institutions, (e.g. schools, libraries, hospitals, public welfare, etc.);
6. The individual and the group in relation to their cultural environment.

The general objective is to stimulate specific activities contributing to the development of human values and rural talent, and to assist rural people in developing and coordinating their various groups and institutions in relation to their priority and emphasis in community building

The conference undoubtedly marks the beginning of a new stage in rural sociology which will have an important effect not only upon extension, but upon research and teaching in the field of rural sociology.

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NEXT MEETING OF THE AMERICAN COUNTRY LIFE ASSOCIATION.

The next American Country Life Conference will be held at Cornell University, August 17-19, 1931. The topic which will run through the Conference is to be "Rural Government." It is well known that New York State stands at the forefront in the attempt to understand needed changes in its rural local government. It is quite fitting that Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey will be the President of the Conference.

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GRADUATE COURSES IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND RURAL SOCIOLOGY IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

The Social Science Research Council, following a recommendation of its Advisory Committee on Social and Economic Research in Agriculture, has secured funds to support graduate courses in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology in Washington. This work is to be under the direction of a sub-committee of the Social Science Research Council, and the courses will be offered in the Graduate School of American University, beginning the second semester, February - June, 1931.

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MOVEMENT OF OPEN COUNTRY POPULATION IN OHIO.

Professor C. E. Lively and P. G. Beck are joint authors of Bulletin 467 of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, dated November, 1930.

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AT GARRETT BIBLICAL INSTITUTE, EVANSTON, ILLINOIS.

The following studies have been recently completed by the Department of Sociology and Home Missions cooperating through the Rural Community Extension Service, or are still in progress:

1. Survey of the unoccupied and unorganized home missionary fields of the Young Men's Christian Association. Presented at the National Council of Y.M.C.A. October 21st, 1930, Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago.

Includes study of rural boys, Negro, Mexican and American Indian groups, and recommendations for the development and extension of character-building activities of the Y.M.C.A. to these needy fields.

2. Study of suburban communities in the Greater Chicago Metropolitan Area, including land utility, population shifts, transportation facilities, educational changes, recreational features and the provisions for religious worship and religious education in areas rapidly changing from farming to commutation, industrial or resort developments. Much of the area is now suffering from over inflation and speculation and is exploited by vice and agencies of questionable moral status which move out to escape laws of cities and suburban cities.

3. Study of the Larger Parish movement in the United States, as a method or technique for organizing town and country churches into larger and more effective cooperating groups of churches, with staff leadership and constructive programs of service which eliminates competition and provides units of adequate size and support, to cope with present day problems of community organization.

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AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

Professor C. E. Lively has completed all requirements for the Ph. D. degree at the University of Minnesota and will receive the degree as soon as the technicality of rank will permit.

A bulletin now in press deals with Minnesota Farm Trade Centers. It represents an analysis of the village situation in the State of Minnesota between the years 1905 and 1928 with particular reference to agriculture. The author is C. C. Zimmerman. A major project under way this year deals with the villages in Minnesota which have appeared or disappeared since 1905. The total number of such villages is near 700.

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FAMILY LIVING EXPENDITURES ON OHIO FARMS.

Professor C. E. Lively is author of Bulletin 468 of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station. This bulletin bears the date November, 1930.

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AT THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COLLEGE.

In addition to the problem on rural health I have been doing field work on another study called "Social Change in Brookings County." This is the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the agricultural college and the sixty-third anniversary of the first white settlement in Brookings County. In keeping with the college anniversary program, which we are celebrating in February, it has seemed an auspicious time to make a sociologic study of the social changes, which have taken place in the history of the County. We, of course, are attempting not only to record the changes themselves, but to find if possible the cause of change, the comparative rate of different type of change, together with some of the results of social change.

W. F. Kumlien,  
Prof. of Rural Sociology

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AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY.

Field work in the sociological study carried on by the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life of the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Economics has been completed. The study was located in Knott County in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky and is being made in connection with an investigation of land utilization and conditions of living in that region. The geographic boundaries of each neighborhood and community were secured and information obtained for a case study of each group, its history, change in boundaries and other data necessary to the appraisal of existing social conditions. An analysis was also made of trade centers and a map showing the trade areas in the county.

A study was also made of the industries of the county. The analysis of population groupings is being made by Mr. M. D. Oyler and that of industries and handicrafts by Mr. W. C. Nason of the Federal Division of Farm Population and Rural Life.

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AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY.

The School of Religion of Vanderbilt University announces another Rural Church School during the two weeks following Easter, April 6 - 17, 1931. Arrangements are being made to care for 350 students. An extra force of 60 instructors and lecturers will be added to the faculty staff. The rural interest in Vanderbilt University is showing increased strength year by year.

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AT THE TEXAS A. AND M. COLLEGE.

After a rather checkered career at Texas A. and M. College, Rural Sociology was reorganized into a separate department in the fall of 1926. Since that time the department has grown from 80 students in one year to between 500 and 600 students. These students are drawn almost equally from the five schools of the College - School of Agriculture, School of Vocational Teaching, School of Arts and Sciences, School of Engineering and School of Veterinary Medicine. Thirty-one of the thirty-five departments in the College are represented in the Rural Sociology Department.

There was doubt for some time as to what school the department should be placed in. It finally ended in the School of Agriculture where it has remained ever since.

Courses are given in Introductory Rural Sociology, Rural Social Problems, Rural Organization, Community Organization, General Sociology, Social Problems, Social Psychology, Social Research, and Agricultural Journalism. Besides these courses four advanced courses in general and rural sociology are given for graduate students.

At the present time there are 14 undergraduate students majoring in Rural Sociology and 2 graduate students majors. Many more students are minoring in the department. Rev. C. W. Lokey took a Master's degree in the department the past summer session, his thesis subject being the Edgewood Plan of Rural Church Organization. Mr. A. A. Miller is a candidate for a Master's degree at the spring convocation, his thesis subject being Community Halls in Texas. Mr. Joe E. Davis is likewise a candidate for the Master's degree in the spring convocation, his thesis subject being Public Welfare Work in Small Towns and Rural Communities in Texas.

The department has grown so rapidly that it is impossible for one man to handle the work of the department as it should be handled. We are hoping the legislature grants us additional assistance next year. There is a great field for rural social research in Texas; however, this field is practically untouched as yet. Most of the work of the department has to be teaching rather than research since the force is so limited.

Daniel Russell

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A PSYCHOLOGIST TEACHES COUNTY AGENTS.

At a conference of the Agricultural Extension personnel of the State of Maryland, held at the University of Maryland, January 20 - 23, Dr. J. W. Sprowls, the University psychologist, gave a series of four lectures on Personality and the Psychology of the Group. This appearance of a psychologist on a farm program is one more indication that the Land Grant College is coming to feel a need of scientific knowledge of the man factor in agriculture.

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JAPAN DISCUSSES METHOD IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY.

In a recent research bulletin of the Gifu Imperial College of Agriculture, Gifu, Japan, Professor Eitaro Suzuki, the author, in an English introduction, has the following to say about methodology in rural sociology:

"I hope the day will soon come, when the rural life in Japan will be studied from the scientific viewpoint and a Japanese rural sociology will be systematically built upon the foundation of Japanese rural conditions. But what is most important for us at present is to learn methodological theories in rural sociology abroad. Again, if we wish to make rural sociology have social prestige here as in the U.S.A., we have to learn how the American rural sociology was produced and developed as a social product, because a science will not have prestige in any country, however refined its logical construction, if it is without any bearing on the practical world.

"In America, the science of rural sociology was the product, not of logical processes of the science of sociology, but of the necessity of the times. It, therefore, in the beginning aimed to solve rural problems, without any strict attention to its methodology, and it gained gradually importance in rural education and in the minds of social thinkers, politicians, and preachers, though it could not perform any special contribution of its own. It was only after rural sociology became highly esteemed by the people, that the students in this field began to pay serious attention to its methodology.

"At present in the U. S., we can find a few contributions to methodological theory, with which rural sociology can claim a scientific level.

"It has been one of the greatest faults of Japanese general sociologists in the past that they have dealt too much with philosophical questions. All they have done is only the translation of social theories held by foreign scholars, but scarcely any of them have interpreted Japanese social phenomena from a sociological viewpoint, much less have they formulated their own social theories upon the foundation of the actual social conditions in Japan. With such faults our rural social study would be of small value either practically or scientifically.

"The 'regional survey' practiced by the Le Play school in England, and the 'Soziologie des Dorfes' proclaimed by the Beziehungslehre school in Germany, are of great value for us Japanese sociologists of rural life, for the techniques and methods employed in them can quite easily be applied in our study. The rural life in England and Germany in their historical and geographical conditions quite resemble ours, at least much more than that in the U. S. A. We, then, have forerunners in our study of rural sociology, first in the U. S. A., second in England, and the last in Germany."

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NEW YORK GOVERNOR ON COUNTRY AND CITY RELATIONSHIPS.

Governor Roosevelt of New York, in his annual message at the opening session of the State Legislature January 7, said: "The past two years have placed the State of New York in the lead in remedial legislation for the farmers and rural dwellers. The Governor's Agricultural Advisory Commission, which has been of such inestimable help, will continue and will make further recommendations to bring into a more sound and equitable relationship the country and the city communities. In other words we have progressed to the point where we can visualize and formulate a practical, definite and far-reaching land policy for the State. Long-range planning for the character of the use of land itself has become almost a prerequisite to the building of arteries of transportation, the development of markets, the diversification of crops, flood control, reforestation and the many other needs that fall under the general head of agriculture, conservation and the even broader head of social economics. In a special message I will later outline this definite land policy, the adoption of which I believe would be of permanent value to every individual and every community."

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RURAL SOCIAL CHANGES INTERPRETED.

Four addresses were recently given by Dr. C. J. Galpin at the University of Maryland on the following topics: a decreasing farm population, an increasing number of "small farmers," an increasing standard of rural living, an increasing burden of rural taxation.

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RURAL LIFE SUNDAY.

Rural Life Sunday will be generally observed throughout the United States on May 10, 1931.

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SANDERSON AND DORN HELP WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE.

Dr. Dwight Sanderson and Harold F. Dorn of Cornell University contributed to the literature of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, a mimeographed preliminary report of 105 pages entitled THE RELATION OF DENSITY AND AGGREGATION OF POPULATION TO THE FAMILY. The report, on the statistical side, is extracted from a number of sources more or less difficult of access.

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FARMERS' EXPERIENCES AND OPINIONS AS FACTORS INFLUENCING THEIR COTTON-MARKETING METHODS.

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Dr. T. B. Manny, Senior Agricultural Economist, is author of Circular No. 144, of the United States Department of Agriculture, dated January, 1931.

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WISCONSIN TEACHES FARM ACCOUNTS IN RURAL SCHOOLS.

A new tack has been taken in Wisconsin in the effort to more generally establish the practice of keeping farm production records and business transactions by farmers. The first of the new year many farmers who have not been in the habit, resolve to keep track of their business. They take an inventory and start an account. After a month or two, either loss of interest or the more regular demands upon their time cause neglect and finally failure to complete the record.

The need for farm facts and for business training to obtain them, is so evident that this project has been made a part of the course of study in the elementary schools. Before this was done, a number of rural-minded teachers and some county superintendents had used a short practical set of farm transactions in correlation with arithmetic in their schools.

This plan was developed by John S. Donald, who for eight years was Farm Management Specialist with the State College of Agriculture. He is now carrying this project forward separately, but in full cooperation with and as a member of the staff in Agricultural Economics. When the demand in the state reached ten or twelve thousand farm account books annually, with a farm record and the accounts for a year put into problem form to go with about two-thirds of the account books, which were used for schoolroom instruction, it over-reached the function of a college of agriculture.

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FARM POPULATION ASSOCIATED WITH SIZE OF FARMS, ETC.

Dr. C. J. Galpin is author of a multigraph based on the 1925 Census of Agriculture, bearing the date December, 1930, which correlates farm population with several economic factors presented for the United States in map form.

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THE POPULATION OF IOWA - ITS COMPOSITION AND CHANGES.

Professor W. L. Harter and the late Professor R. E. Stewart are joint authors of Bulletin No. 275 of the Iowa State Agricultural Experiment Station. The date is November, 1930.

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FARM FAMILY PARTICIPATION.

The Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station has recently published Mimeograph Bulletin No. 29, by Dr. E. D. Tetreau, entitled "Farm Family Participation in Lodges, Grange, Farm Bureau, Four-H Clubs, School and Church," being a study of 610 farm families in Madison and Union Counties, Ohio, with especial attention to owners and tenants, in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. Dr. Tetreau states the following conclusion of his study:

"Tenants" who are living on land which they expect to inherit or receive by gift, are sufficiently unlike "other tenants" in social participation to command separate classification, if tenure classification is to attain to some precision. (Herein called "owners-in-prospect"). The superior degree of participation of owners-in-prospect as compared with that of owners and tenants, indicates that the younger, oncoming generation of owners, not needing to climb to ownership unaided, is setting the pace for all other farmers, as to the proportions of their families that participate.

Where tenants are considerably in the minority (group 3), their families closely compete with owners and owners-in-prospects' families with respect to school and church participation. This means that in this group, owners' families come third, or barely win second place.

The relatively low level of participation of both owners and tenants, in group 1, seems to indicate that the pressure of the majority pulls downward, (where tenants are in the majority) if the level of participation for the majority is low. Owners-in-prospects' high level of participation in this group does not meet with the close competition on the part of owners and tenants found in group 3.

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HOUSEHOLD CONVENIENCES.

The Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station has recently published Mimeograph Bulletin No. 30, by E. D. Tetreau, entitled "Farm Equipment for Communication and Household Convenience," being a study of 610 farm families in Madison and Union Counties, Ohio, with especial attention to owners and tenants, in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. Dr. Tetreau states the following:

Seven farmers in each 100 regularly take an annual vacation; 51 make visits; and 12 take trips and go on outings. The owner group leads in the proportion taking vacations, tenants coming next, and owners-in-prospect come last. The tenant group leads as to the proportions that make visits, while owners come next, and owners-in-prospect come last. Owners-in-prospect lead as to trips and outings while owners and tenants tie for second place.

The farmers of group 1 lead in the matter of vacations; those of group 2 lead in trips and outings; and those of group 3 lead in the proportions given to making visits. Quite clearly vacations have not yet been widely adopted in the farmer's annual program.

As the number of farmers in each group - 204, 203 and 203 respectively - is increasingly made up of owners and owners-in-prospect, the percentages of farmers having telephones, radios, surfaced roads, daily papers, and farm papers, show noticeable increases. Correspondingly, as the number of owners and owners-in-prospect in each group increases, the percentages of farmers having household conveniences for lighting, heating, and sanitation show marked increases. The average number of rooms per house also increases.

A similar trend appears with respect to the proportions of homes equipped with one or more musical instruments. The incidence of vacations, trips, outings and visits, shows no such increase nor decrease. The higher proportions of owners-in-prospects' homes equipped with reading materials and labor saving conveniences, as compared with tenants and owners, appear consistently.

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AT NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE.

The manuscript for a study of "One Hundred and Fifty-Four Community Organizations in Seven North Carolina Counties" by Carl C. Taylor and C. P. Loomis, has just been completed at the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station.

A study of "The Influence of Church Facilities Upon the Standard of Living of Farm Families in Wake County, North Carolina," will be completed by May 1, by Dr. W. A. Anderson, Prof. C. P. Loomis and Dr. Carl C. Taylor.

An eighty column Hollerith Machine with all supplementary equipment has just been installed at North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering.

Dean Carl C. Taylor spoke at the Wisconsin Farm and Home Program on February 6th on the topic, "The Place of Leisure in Farm Life."

Dr. W. A. Anderson, Head of the Department of Rural Sociology, North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering, is on a year's leave of absence doing research work in China.

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Article I. Name

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Rural Sociology Section of the American Sociological Society.

Article II. Object

Section 1. The object of this organization shall be the encouragement and development of research, teaching and extension activities in the field of Rural Sociology.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Membership shall consist of those members of the American Sociological Society who indicate Rural Sociology as a field of interest.

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. The officers shall consist of a chairman, a vice-chairman, and a secretary-treasurer. These shall be elected by a majority vote at the annual meeting.

Article V. Committees

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the officers, and two members-at-large. The members-at-large shall be elected by a majority vote at the annual meeting.

Section 2. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to co-operate with the parent society to arrange the annual meeting of the organization, and to perform such other duties as it deems to the best interests of the organization.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall have power to fill vacancies in its membership occasioned by death, resignation or failure to elect.

Section 4. The chairman shall have power to appoint temporary committees (including a nominating committee) as the need arises.

Section 5. Other committees may be created by vote of the organization.

Section 6. The nominating committee shall select at least one member of the retiring Executive Committee in the list of nominations which it submits. No member of the Executive Committee can be continued on this committee more than two years in succession.

Article VI. Expenditures

Section 1. The Executive Committee, unless otherwise provided, shall control the expenditure of all funds.

### Article VII. Meetings

Section 1. There shall be an annual business meeting held during the general meeting of the American Sociological Society.

Section 2. Special meetings may be held at the call of the Executive Committee.

### Article VIII. Quorum.

Section 1. Twenty-five members shall constitute a quorum of the organization.

Section 2. Three members shall constitute a quorum of the executive committee.

### Article IX. Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to these By-Laws shall be submitted over the signatures of at least ten members, and adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting.

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### PRELIMINARY STUDENT RURAL LIFE CONFERENCE AT KALAMAZOO.

The second annual preliminary conference of the Student Section of the American Country Life Association will be held at the Western State Teachers College, Kalamazoo, Michigan, March 6-8, 1931. This follows immediately the Twenty-fifth Annual Rural Progress Day of Western State Teachers College, March 6. The local Country Life Club of the college is cooperating in the promotion of the conference.

The two objectives of the conference are to set up the program for the Student Section of the National Country Life Conference which will convene at Cornell University, August 17-20 and to formulate plans for forwarding the student rural life movement. Officers of the Student Section of the Association including Reva Gooch, Western State Teachers College as president, and Ralph Miller, Iowa State College, as secretary, will have charge of the conference sessions which will be of a forum or discussion nature.

Collegiate Rural Life Clubs including 4-H, Junior Grange, Vo-Ag., Agricultural Association or the like interested in sending a delegate to Preliminary Conference should wire E. L. Kirkpatrick, University of Wisconsin, at once concerning part payment of expenses by the Association.

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AT THE KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The Kansas State Conference of Social Workers will hold its annual meeting at the Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas, March 19, 20, and 21. Dr. Howard E. Jensen, Chairman of the Department of Sociology, University of Missouri will be the principal speaker. At the same time there will be a meeting of the teachers of sociology in the colleges and universities of the state. Dr. Randall C. Hill, Associate Professor of Sociology, Kansas State Agricultural College is chairman of the program committee and the group of state sociologists.

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AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

Farm and Home Week Stresses Sociological Aspects of Rural Life.

Forces which make farm life attractive constituted the central theme of the annual Farm and Home Week program at Madison, February 2 to 6. Among the speakers who contributed materially to the sociological aspects of the program were Geo. E. Farrell and Eugene Merritt of the U. S. Agricultural Extension Service and Carl C. Taylor of the North Carolina State College.

Drama Tournament and Music Festival.

The Kilbourn Social Center representing Milwaukee County and Gravel Hill P.T.A. representing Rock County won first and second place at the fourth Annual Rural Adult Drama Tournament held at Madison during Farm and Home Week. The plays presented by these groups were "Locked Windows," by Carol McMillan Reid of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, and "The Mayor and the Manicure," by George Ade. Twelve groups representing as many counties participated in the preliminaries which also were held at Madison during farmer's week. In the 40 counties in which local work was done, looking toward the tournament, 300 clubs or groups with 2500 participants presented plays.

Five counties were entered in the Music Festival. This was not a contest among the different counties. Each program (of one-half hour) was judged on a par scale of rating, as fair, good, excellent, or superior. Waukesha County, with the Junior Chorus, and Sheboygan County, with Oostburg Church Choirs, received superior ratings. Each county which participated in the Drama Tournament or the Music Festival were presented with a parchment which bore the signature of President Frank, Dean Russell and Professor Kolb. Approximately 3000 persons attended the tournament and the festival which were in charge of a state executive committee composed of K. L. Hatch, Robert Amundson, E. B. Gordon, J. H. Kolb, and A. F. Wileden. The state committee was assisted by experts from the Departments of Speech and Music and by the personnel of the Blue Shield Country Life Club of the University.

Dinner Meeting for Dr. Taylor.

Faculty members and graduate students of the Department of Rural Sociology met informally at dinner with Dr. Carl C. Taylor of North

Carolina State College, at the time of his visit at Madison during Farm and Home Week. Dr. Taylor discussed for the group, "Opportunities in Rural Sociology in the South."

Community Standards of Living.

E. L. Kirkpatrick will address the Michigan Rural Education Society on, "The Rural Teacher and Community Standards of Living," at Kalamazoo, Michigan, Rural Progress Day, March 6. He will also address the Western State Teachers College Country Life Club on, "Will Youth Listen?" The latter address will open the preliminary Student Conference of the American Country Life Association, at Kalamazoo, March 6-8, 1931.

Restudy Dane County Rural Primary Groups.

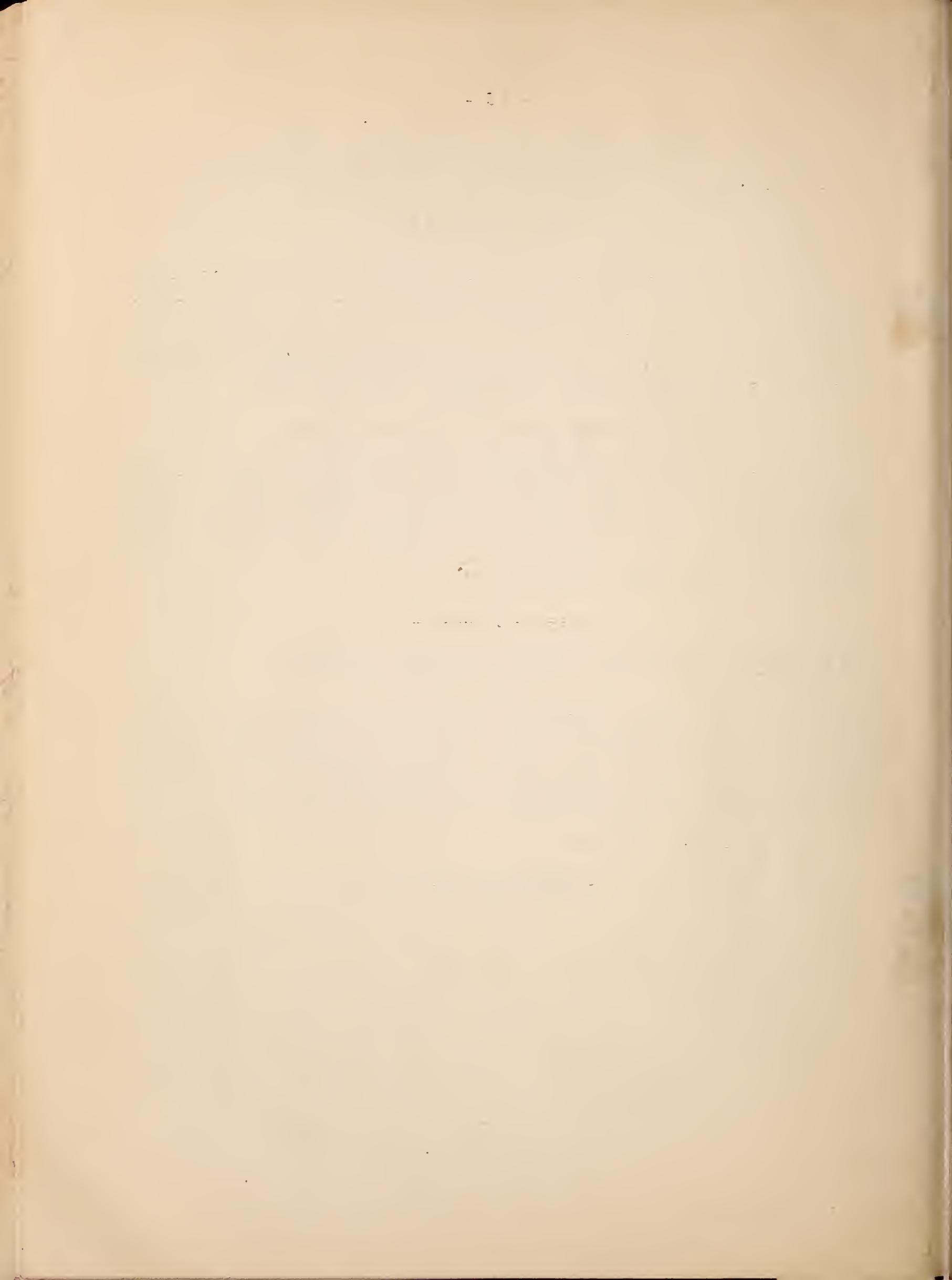
J. H. Kolb and Conrad Taeuber are conducting a restudy of Dane County rural primary groups which were studied originally by Mr. Kolb ten years ago. Questionnaires sent out through the rural schools have been returned and the work of tabulation is started. The former study was reported in 1921, by the Agricultural Experiment Station and the U. S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

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THE SYSTEMATIC SOURCE BOOK IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY, VOLUME II.

The University of Minnesota Press announces the second volume of the Systematic Source Book as ready in May, volume three to follow shortly. Teachers and students of rural sociology are reminded that the edition is quite limited and that advance subscription now, addressed to the University Press, Minneapolis, Minnesota, is the only sure way of obtaining a set. When the three volumes are printed and put on sale the edition will be quickly exhausted.

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June 1, 1931 and September 1, 1931.

Vol. V, Nos. 2 & 3.

## AMERICAN COUNTRY LIFE ASSOCIATION

The Fourteenth Annual Country Life Conference, meeting at Ithaca, New York, August 17 to 20, considered the subject "Rural Government" from many angles. Something over 800 people from 39 different States and a few from foreign countries were in attendance. Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, former Governor Frank O. Lowden, Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey, Dr. Kenyon L. Butterfield, and Dr. John M. Glenn were among the prominent speakers at the general sessions. Six forums which included both formal papers and lively discussions from the floor took up the following subjects: County reorganization and management; village and township government; taxation; public education; public health and welfare; and rural planning.

At the last general session of the conference, each forum chairman or secretary presented a ten-minute summary of the high points developed in the meetings of that forum. Some of the points stressed were the following:

1. County government needs more centralization in the administration of its affairs, preferably by the employment of an appointive county manager.
2. Consolidation of counties small in area or sparse in population, or at least inter-county cooperation in the maintenance of necessary institutions and services can effect decided economies of operation.
3. The mid-west township is an almost universally admitted failure as a unit of local self-government and has probably outlived whatever usefulness it ever had in this connection.

4. The entire system of taxation needs re-vamping so as to spread the burden more equitably among the various sources of income, earning power and socially created values. Owners of real property, especially farmers, are now bearing a greatly disproportionate share of the cost of government.
5. The principle of Federal and State grants-in-aid to subsidize areas that cannot provide adequate institutions and services is to be encouraged but the distribution of such aid must not be made a means of domination by central government.
6. The rural school system, especially where one-room school districts still predominate, needs reorganization into larger local units.
7. There is opportunity for and real advantage in more co-operation between town and country in matters of local government. The incorporation of farmers' trade centers and surrounding farm areas into single rural municipalities for purposes of local self-government provides an effective means of promoting such cooperation.
8. From a research point of view, rural government, except taxation, is almost an untouched field. Just a few studies on local government organization and functioning have been made here and there. On the other hand, political scientists and workers at the Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, are recently indicating a much greater interest in the subject.

Official reports of the proceedings and addresses will be published by the American Country Life Association.

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THE AMERICAN COUNTRY LIFE ASSOCIATION STUDENT CONFERENCE.

That the student rural life movement in colleges and universities is growing is attested by the fact that the 1931 National Conference of the American Country Life Association was marked with the

largest student delegation in its conference history. More than 100 students, representing 19 institutions registered for the Student Section sessions at Cornell University, August 17-20. The sessions were in charge of Reva Gooch, Western (Michigan) State Teachers College, assisted by committee chairmen including Richard Pringle, Cornell University, Dana Farnsworth, West Virginia University, Willard Colebank, University of Tennessee, Elmer Young, University of Nebraska, Ruby Martin, Potsdam State Teachers College, and Theo. Norman, Iowa State College.

The program consisted of four fellowship meetings or gatherings and four discussion sessions. It was carried out according to the plan arranged at the preliminary conference held at Kalamazoo, Michigan, March 6 - 7, except the closing date, which was made to coincide with the larger conference.

Speakers appearing before the student group included E. C. Branson, Liberty Hyde Bailey, Frank O. Lowden, H. C. Taylor, K. L. Butterfield, Theo. B. Manny, and Walter A. Terpenning.

At the business session the following officers for the Student Section were elected:

President ..... Josephine Collings, University 4-H Club, Cornell Univ.  
Vice-Presidents .... Carlton Nelson, 4-H Club, University of Minnesota.  
Theo. Norman, 4-H Club, Iowa State College.  
Elmer Young, University 4-H Club, University of Nebraska.  
Secretary ..... Willard Colebank, Agriculture Club, University of Tenn.  
Editor ..... Helen Kelley, Apple Blossom Club, Central State Teachers College.

E. L. Kirkpatrick.

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#### MEETING OF EXTENSION RURAL SOCIOLOGISTS.

Extension rural sociologists from 11 States, representatives from the Office of Cooperative Extension Work and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and several research workers in the field of rural sociology met at Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia, August 28-30 to consider extension programs and policies in this field and to look into the question of what research is needed to make their extension activities more effective.

Added research was urged in the following fields as a basis for such extension programs: membership problems of farmers' organizations of various types, the coordination of programs and activities of local groups, leadership problems and the psychology of leadership, the cultural arts, farmers standards of living, ways and means of encouraging farmers to think in terms of groups and group problems as well as taking the more customary individualistic viewpoint.

All present agreed that the meeting was very much worth while and urged that a similar conference be arranged to precede or follow the meeting of the American Country Life Association in 1932.

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#### SOURCE BOOK IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY.

Volume II of A Systematic Source Book in Rural Sociology by Sorokin, Zimmerman and Galpin is now in print. It can be secured from the publishers, the University of Minnesota Press. Volume III is now in proof and is expected to be available before the end of the year. An intensive index of the three volumes is in preparation.

Several well-known specialists in foreign countries have commended the first two volumes very highly. Among these men are Dr. Milan Hcdga, President of the Czecho-Slovakian Academy of Agriculture and recently Minister of Agriculture in the government of that country; Dr. W. Seedorf, director of the Institut fur Landwirtschaftliche Betriebs-und Landarbeitslehre (Germany); and Dr. E. Suzuki, one of the leading rural sociologists of Japan.

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#### VERMONT COMMISSION ON COUNTRY LIFE.

Rural Vermont, a Program for the Future, by Two hundred Vermonters, has been published recently by the Vermont Commission on Country Life, of which Dr. Henry C. Taylor served as the Director. The book contains 20 chapters dealing with various phases of the rural situation with suggestions for the future. The chapters entitled, The Rural Home and Community Life, Recreation, Medical Facilities for Rural People, Educational Facilities for Rural People, The Care of the Handicapped, Rural Government, Citizenship, Religious Forces, and The Conservation of Vermont Traditions and Ideals are of special interest to rural sociologists.

The Division of Farm Population and Rural Life has conducted cooperatively with the Commission and the Vermont Experiment Station a study entitled "Population Substitutions of Rural Vermont" with Miss Genieve Lamson as field worker.

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published yet (Jan. 25 '32)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF RURAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

What Country Women of the World are Doing, is a 2-volume report of the First Conference of Rural Women's Organizations called by the International Council of Women and published by this organization whose headquarters are 117 Victoria Street, London, S.W.I. The conference was held in London, April 30 - May 3, 1929.

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The report consists of statements from national organizations of farm women in many countries scattered all over the world, the relations of the State to these organizations, and kindred topics. The delegates from the United States were Mrs. A. E. Brigden and Mrs. G. Thomas Powell, both from New York State. A bibliography of leading women now taking an active part in promoting the cause of rural women throughout the world is given at the close of Volume II.

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF RURAL LIFE.

The papers, discussions, and reports of business sessions of the Fourth International Congress for the Advancement of Rural Life, held in Liege, Belgium, August 7 to 15, 1930, have been published as Bulletins Nos. 10 and 11 of the International Commission. Papers by Miss Grace Frysinger, A. G. Arvold, B. Y. Landis, C. J. Galpin, and H. C. Taylor are included in the reports. Copies may be secured from the Secretariat General, 40 Rue des Joyeuses Entrees, Louvain, Belgium.

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THE PLACE OF AGRICULTURE IN AMERICAN LIFE.

The Macmillan Company has published a small volume entitled, The Place of Agriculture in American Life, by Wilson Gee of the University of Virginia. Among the chapters are noted the following: The Contribution of the Countryside; Some Rural Social Problems; Cooperation in Agriculture; The Future of American Agriculture. The book is non-technical in nature, intended possibly more for the urban reader than for the specialist in rural affairs. It is a very readable presentation of the status of farming in America, historically and in the present.

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ANOTHER MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS STUDY.

Dr. T. B. Manny, Senior Agricultural Economist, Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, is the author of a preliminary report entitled, The Ohio Farm Bureau Federation from the Farmers' Viewpoint, dated April, 1931. The report has 115 pages, with 74 tables and four charts. Copies may be had by addressing this Division, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, so long as the supply lasts. Farmer opinions concerning this organization and its work are summarized and analyzed. Some checks upon the opinions of the farmers are included. Suggestions for meeting some of the problems raised by the survey are given at the end.

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RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

Rural Community Fire Departments, Farmers Bulletin No. 1667, by Wayne C. Nason of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture has just been published.

This publication, semi-technical in material and popular in style, presents the results of a field survey of nearly 100 rural fire departments that serve farmers, especially those in which farmers have some ownership or financial interest.

Its object is to show how farmers and rural people may secure more adequate facilities for combating fires and thus reduce rural fire insurance costs, the great loss from farm fires and resulting social distress.

It outlines methods by which farmers, rural communities and towns have, singly or in cooperation, organized, financed, controlled and operated fire departments whose chief aim was to serve farmers. It also describes the apparatus purchased. Several types of rural fire departments, operating under different conditions and serving varying types of farm and other rural communities, are described in detail.

The bulletin will appeal to those interested in reducing farm and rural fire losses, including the inhabitants of farms and villages, and of those towns supported by farmers; farm and community organizations; fire departments attempting to serve rural communities; insurance companies; fire waste and protection organizations; schools for rural firemen; and teachers of rural economics and sociology.

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RURAL INDUSTRIES IN KNOTT COUNTY.

The results of a survey of rural industries in Knott County, Kentucky, are being prepared for publication.

This survey is part of an intensive economic and social study of a typical Appalachian highland county conducted in 1930 by 13 people representing the Department of Agriculture and the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station, cooperating. Mr. W. C. Nason represented this Division. The local travel was performed on horseback.

The main object of the rural industry survey was to ascertain what rural industries existed, the reasons for their localization, their present position and prospects of future development as supplements to farm incomes.

The locale of the survey is in the mountains of the eastern part of the State where the ancestors of the present inhabitants first migrated from Virginia and nearby states and opened up the wilderness, about 1800. Hemmed in by mountains and with poor transportation facilities their industrial and cultural progress became retarded. Many ancient crafts, customs and forms of speech still survive, while certain refinements of civilization have scarcely penetrated.

Among the rural industries studied were the so-called fireside industries known as hand weaving, basketry, and furniture making. Farm women and men were found to be supplementing their meagre agricultural incomes to a considerable degree from the proceeds of these ancient crafts. Their incomes from these sources suffered, however, from lack of business organization, including supervision, publicity methods, standardization of products and cooperation. Other local industries surveyed included sawmilling, coal mining, stone quarrying, grist milling and blacksmithing.

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ORGANIZATIONS AFFECTING FARM YOUTH IN  
LOCUST TOWNSHIP, COLUMBIA COUNTY, (PA.)

The Pennsylvania State College, School of Agriculture and Experiment Station, in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life has recently published Bulletin 265, entitled, Organizations Affecting Farm Youth in Locust Township, Columbia County, by William V. Dennis. Prof. Dennis states the primary object of the study was to discover for the region surveyed the number, character, and quality of the services of the organizations in which farm youth have membership or through which they establish social contacts. He stresses particularly the contacts through institutions and organizations; contacts on family or individual basis; social contacts of farm owners and social contacts of farm youth.

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4-H CLUB WORK IN WEST VIRGINIA.

The Agricultural Experiment Station of West Virginia University has published Bulletin 241, entitled, 4-H Club Work in West Virginia, by T. L. Harris, Sociologist, dated April, 1931. The study was made in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. The scope of the study includes an analysis of the structure, functions, and influences of 341 clubs in 39 counties; a county study of farm boys of club age (10 to 18) who are not club members; a case study of a county in which 4-H Club Work has made steady progress from its inception to the present time; strong points and weak points in 4-H Club Work, etc. A preliminary report of this study, giving tabular presentation of the data, was issued in mimeographed form by the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life.

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ORGANIZATIONS OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE IN VIRGINIA.

The Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life has issued Bulletin 274 entitled Young People's Organizations in Relation to Rural Life in Virginia with Special Reference to 4-H Club Work. Dr. W. E. Garnett is the author, with Section IV on Effects of Club Work on School Work written by Florence Hamer Stubbs.

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AN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SURVEY IN VIRGINIA.

*✓ Davis*  
The University of Virginia publishes in its University of Virginia Record Extension Series An Economic and Social Survey of Russell County, by Leland Burdine Tate. The survey contains a foreword by Wilson Gee, Professor of Rural Economics and Sociology at the University of Virginia. The content of the bulletin is facts in the history of Russell County, natural resources of the county, rural and urban population, industries, wealth and taxation, schools, evidences of social progress and a collection finally of Russell County problems.

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RURAL HEALTH SITUATION IN SOUTH DAKOTA.

Prof. W. F. Kumlien has completed a study of the rural health situation in South Dakota, which is published as Bulletin 258 by the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station. A portion of this study was made in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. With respect to farm sanitation, good habits, and the prevalence of disease and disorders, the bulletin states that South Dakota farm families would seem to compare favorably with similar groups in other nearby

states. In health costs the average farm family spends approximately \$64 per year for all health services, including doctor's fees, hospital and nursing charges, dental fees, together with unprescribed drugs and optical work.

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#### H. C. TAYLOR'S PARABLES AND ALLEGORIES.

Intimate personal reactions to the problems of rural life with certain elements of the philosophy of life, are contained in a little booklet by Dr. H. C. Taylor, published by the Driftwood Press, Montpelier, Vermont, 1931.

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#### DRAMATICS FOR FARM FOLKS.

Dramatics for Farm Folks is the title of a handbook of suggestions for planning dramatic presentations prepared by D. E. Lindstrom, extension rural sociologist. It is published as Circular 373 of the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station.

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#### GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE, POWERS AND PROBLEMS IN THE NEW RURAL MUNICIPALITY.

An address delivered by Dr. T. D. Manny, Senior Agricultural Economist, at the Fourteenth Annual American Country Life Conference, Cornell University, August 19, 1931, is now available in mimeographed form for distribution by the Division, under the above title.

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#### GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY.

The Committee on Fellowships of the Social Science Research Council has announced for the academic year 1931-1932, the following appointees and alternates in the field of rural sociology, together with their present connection and the institutions which they expect to attend:

<u>Appointee</u>	<u>Present Connection</u>	<u>University to be Attended</u>
Dorn, Harold F.	University of Wisconsin	University of Wisconsin
Loomis, Charles P.	N.C. State University	Harvard University
Oyler, Merton D.	Ky. Agric. Exp. Sta.	University of Chicago
<u>Alternate</u>		
Boyer, Phillips B.	Univ. of Tennessee	University of Chicago

Those interested in securing consideration in the future should bear in mind that application blanks are sent out on December 1 and must be filed by February 1.

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HOW MR. NILS A. OLSEN, CHIEF OF BUREAU SEES DENMARK.

In a letter addressed to the Bureau staff, on his return from Europe, Mr. Olsen gives his impressions of Denmark, as follows:

"...Most interesting of all however, was the intimate view which we had of Danish agriculture and life .... Perhaps no phase of Danish life was more interesting to me than their folk high schools. These schools are a product of the farm people themselves, initiated and supported in the main by Danish farmers. They do not stress technical agricultural subjects in their courses, but rather the more cultural. History, literature, music, and art predominate in their work. Their influence, I believe, can be seen in the tendency everywhere to beautify and enrich Danish farm life. The flower garden was ever present and the artistic sense was reflected in the interior decoration of the home."

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FARM AID TRUST FOUNDED.

The following is quoted from the Daily Digest of June 4:

"A Concord, N. H., dispatch today says: 'A trust for the benefit of agriculture and rural community life in New Hampshire, believed to be the first of its sort in the country to be established by a man who has made his livelihood on the farm, was founded at Concord yesterday, by George Martin Putnam, 67-year-old president of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation. Mr. Putnam is also a director and member of the legislative committee of the American Farm Bureau Federation. The trust is to be known as the Putnam Agricultural Foundation, administered by a group of incorporators selected by the donor with complete powers even to the selection of their successors and headed by Governor John G. Winant' ...."

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RURAL SOCIOLOGY IN JAPAN.

Prof. Iku Okuda of the Taihoku Imperial University, Formosa, Japan, states in a letter to Dr. C. J. Galpin that lectures on Rural Sociology will be given two hours every week in the next academic year in the course of Agricultural Economics of that University.

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A RE-SURVEY OF OTSEGO COUNTY, NEW YORK.

The President's Research Committee on Social Trends has asked that a re-survey of the social areas of Otsego County, New York, be made by the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in cooperation with the Department of Rural Social Organization of Cornell University. The first survey of these areas was made 10 years ago, and printed as Bulletin 422, by the Agricultural Experiment Station of Cornell University, in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. It is expected that important social changes will be revealed in this re-survey.

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NEWS ITEMS FROM THE FIELD.

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY.

The Standard of Living of 100 Latter Day Saints farm families of Clifton, Idaho, by Harold C. Bateman, Master's thesis at Brigham Young University. This is the first intensive analysis of expenditures of rural Mormon families which has yet been made. The community studied is of the open country type rather than the village type which prevails in many sections of the Mormon area. The study covered all of the families in the community: 84 of these were owner families, 10 were tenants, and 6 were managers.

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A schedule patterned closely after that used in the studies made by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics was used in this study and the material was gathered by personal interviews. The average size of all families was 4.86 persons, the average cost of living for the 100 families was 1,454.19. Approximately 31 per cent of this cost was furnished by the farm and 69 per cent was purchased.

The distribution of costs among the various items is as follows: food, 38 per cent; clothing, 19 per cent; operation, 15 per cent; housing, 10 per cent; advancement, 5.24 per cent; health, 5.2 per cent; furniture and equipment, 4.5 per cent; insurance, 1.8 per cent, personal goods, 1 per cent. Mr. Bateman found that the larger the family expenditures the smaller the percentage has been for food, the larger the percentage that went for clothing, furnishings and equipment, operation, health, advancement, and life insurance, while the percentage going for rent and personal items remain constant.

There is a marked relationship among these families between the age of the operators and the total expenditures. In age groups up to 50 years the correlation is positive and from 50 years on, the expenditures decline. A positive relationship also exists between the factors of education of operators and home makers and expenditures.

Lowry Nelson.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

Dr. E. D. Tetreau has joined the staff of the Giannini Foundation for a few months. He is on leave from the Ohio State University.

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CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

New appointments in the Department of Rural Social Organization, New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, include Dr. W. A. Anderson of North Carolina State College, as assistant professor; Robert A. Polson, who served last year as research assistant in rural sociology at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, as an extension specialist in rural social organization; Howard W. Beers, who has held a Social Science Research Council Fellowship at the University of Chicago, as instructor; and Mildred B. Thurow, Professor of Home Economics, McPherson College, Kansas, and Leland B. Tate, who has held a Dupont Fellowship at the University of Virginia, as assistants.

The Tompkins County (New York) Conference of Public and Welfare Agencies has published a County Handbook, giving a directory of all county organizations, officials, schools, and churches. It was edited by Mr. A. M. Paxson of the Department of Rural Social Organization, Cornell University.

Two recent publications of the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station from the Department of Rural Social Organization are: Bulletin 523, The Sociology of a Village and the Surrounding Territory, by Bruce L. Melvin, and Bulletin 524, The Communities of Schuyler County, New York, in 1927, by Ray E. Wakeley.

Dwight Sanderson.

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HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Harvard University has joined the large number of universities and colleges in the development and cultivation of Rural Sociology. Its new Department of Sociology offers two advanced courses in the field; Rural Sociology and Rural Social Organization, Institutions and Culture; and a special research and seminar course in which the graduate students can devote themselves, under the guidance of the specialists, to a study and research in the field. Professors John D. Black, Thomas N. Carver, Edwin F. Gay, P. A. Sorokin and C. C. Zimmerman are involved in the teaching and guidance of research in the field of Rural Sociology. A considerable group of the American as well as foreign graduate students and young scholars are already registered in these courses of research.

Professor C. C. Zimmerman resigned from the University of Minnesota and is appointed Associate Professor of Rural Sociology at Harvard. Professor P. Sorokin who came to Harvard last year is appointed Chairman of the Department of Sociology at Harvard. T. L. Smith who did his graduate work last year at Harvard was appointed an Associate Professor of Rural Sociology at the Louisiana State University. Nathan L. Whetten and C. A. Anderson, the fellows of the Social Science Research Council in the field of Rural Sociology for the preceding years, are now appointed as part-time instructors and tutors in the Department of Sociology at Harvard.

Next year Radcliffe College is expected to introduce similar courses and research in its curriculum.

P. Sorokin.

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#### UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY.

Mr. Fred Boyd, who has been serving as extension rural sociologist at the University of Missouri is now on the staff at the University of Kentucky where he will carry on in both research and extension work in the absence of Mr. Merton D. Oyler who is on leave for the year 1931-32.

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#### MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The Lansing Food Survey, Technical Bulletin 107, by C. A. Scholl and W. O. Hedrick, has been published by the Economics Section of the Agricultural Experiment Station. This is a comprehensive study of the food supply of a typical medium-sized city. The Rural Sociology Section of the Station cooperated in the preparation of the bulletin by supplying trade area maps for certain commodities for the city of Lansing.

Public Health and Educational Services in Michigan, Special Bulletin 207, by C. R. Hoffer, and Services of Institutions and Organizations in Town-Country Communities, Special Bulletin 208, by C. R. Hoffer and Margaret Cawood will be published soon by the Agricultural Experiment Station.

The Department of Sociology in cooperation with the state representatives of the different religious denominations held a school for town-country ministers July 6-17. The following week, the Department, co-operating with the State Conference of Social Work, conducted a conference for social workers.

C. R. Hoffer.

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

C. Horace Hamilton, Assistant Rural Sociologist of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, has been appointed as Associate in Rural Sociology in the Department of Agricultural Economics of the North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering, at Raleigh, Mr. Hamilton will have charge of the teaching and research in Rural Sociology. During the past year, while on leave from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, he studied at Harvard University as a holder of a Social Science Research Council Fellowship.

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NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

A Standard of Living study is the main project under way at the North Dakota Experiment Station. The study is being conducted in co-operation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life.

A study of Rural Community Clubs in North Dakota - Factors Influencing their Success or Failure by E. A. Willson, to appear as North Dakota Experiment Station Bulletin No. 251, is now in press. The bulletin will be of the popular type for general distribution, illustrated with charts and cuts. The first part consists of a statistical analysis of data secured from a state-wide study of independent rural community clubs of the area type. The second part is devoted to detailed case studies of a number of clubs and communities. Mr. Willson is now preparing an extension circular based on the above study.

Prof. E. A. Willson had charge of the rural life program at the school for ministers and church leaders held in connection with the annual Young Peoples Conference of the Congregational Church at Valley City, North Dakota.

Mr. Donald Hay, instructor in the Department of Public Discussion and Social Service, did graduate work in rural sociology at the University of Wisconsin summer school.

E. A. Willson.

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VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE.

Mr. A. C. Seymour has been appointed assistant rural sociologist. He was trained at the University of Tennessee and Cornell.

The second annual Summer School for Rural Ministers sponsored by the Virginia Rural Church Conference Board and the Department of Rural

Sociology, had an attendance of about ninety this summer. No scholarships were given this year. This undertaking is an outgrowth of the rural church survey made by the department. The Rural Life Day sponsored by the Rural Church Conference Board in May was widely observed.

The celebration of the centennial of the invention of the reaper by Cyrus McCormick of Rockbridge County, Virginia, held at Virginia Polytechnic Institute in connection with the Institute of Rural Affairs brought an unusually large group of rural leaders - state and national - to the campus. The pageant in connection with this event was a lesson in the value of dramatics to rural people.

The research projects now occupying the attention of the staff include studies in community development, and organization membership relations. Assistance is also being given in the regional and social economic study of the Southern Appalachian Highlands. Virginia's part in this undertaking has included an intensive standards of living and farm management study in Grayson County, a mountain county in the southwestern part of the state.

W. E. Garnett.

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

Stencil Bulletins 106 and 108, Standards of Living in Dane and Green Counties, and Standards of Living in Portage, Langlade and Sawyer Counties are available from the Mailing Room, College of Agriculture. These embody the tentative results from several units of a combined study of standards of living and farm organization or management in the six principal type of farming areas of Wisconsin. The study is being conducted by the Departments of Rural Sociology, Agricultural Economics and Home Economics, at the College of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Divisions of Farm Population and Rural Life and Farm Management and Costs, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. A research bulletin showing some of the relations of income and expenditure is in process.

*Dane*

Better Living in Home and Community - Ways and Means of Improving the Standard of Living, was published in July by the Extension Service of the College of Agriculture and the American Country Life Association. The bulletin was prepared by E. L. Kirkpatrick from the statements and papers presented at the 1930 conference of the American Country Life Association. The bulletin has pertinent quotations from forty participants including F. O. Lowden, Liberty Hyde Bailey, Arthur M. Hyde, George Russell (A.E.), Glenn Frank, Ray Lyman Wilbur, C. J. Galpin, C. C. Taylor and others. Copies of the bulletin, Extension Circular 247 may be obtained from the Mailing Room, College of Agriculture.

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R. A. Polson extension rural sociologist at Cornell University spent a part of August and September in the Department of Rural Social Organization, preparing the materials of the re-study of Walworth County for publication. The original study of this county was made by Dr. C. J. Galpin in 1911- 1913. The re-study was undertaken to note significant social changes during this period.

Prof. Jakob E. Lange, Head of Husmand's Agricultural School, Odense, Denmark, was guest of honor at a luncheon meeting of the faculty of the College of Agriculture September 9. Professor Lange, who was a guest of Dean Chris L. Christensen, is spending two months in special study and observation of American rural life. At the luncheon he described briefly and vividly the national life of Denmark with special reference to the functioning and the status of the nation's folk high schools.

E. L. Kirkpatrick, associate professor of research, has accepted appointment to membership on the Farm and Village Housing Committee of President Hoover's Commission on Home Building and Home Ownership. He is serving as chairman of a subcommittee on research with regard to types, needs and trends. A. R. Mann, Provost, Cornell University, and Bruce L. Melvin, formerly with the Department of Rural Social Organization at Cornell University, are chairman and secretary of the Farm and Village Housing Committee.

Miss Mary Nicholls, research fellow for the National Council of Parent Education at the University of Wisconsin for the past two years, has accepted a position with the Bureau of Child Reference and Council of the public school system of San Diego, California.

L. R. Chang and Harold F. Dorn, graduate students at the Iowa State College and the University of Wisconsin, have been appointed recently to fellowships in Sociology at the University of Wisconsin for 1931 and 1932. B. F. DeWees Runk, also a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin, was appointed to an assistantship. All three are working for the doctorate.

Roy A. West of Richmond, Utah, former assistant at the Utah Agricultural College has been appointed research assistant in the Department of Rural Sociology. Mr. West will help Mr. Kolb complete the field work and tabulation of materials for the re-study of social areas in Dane County.

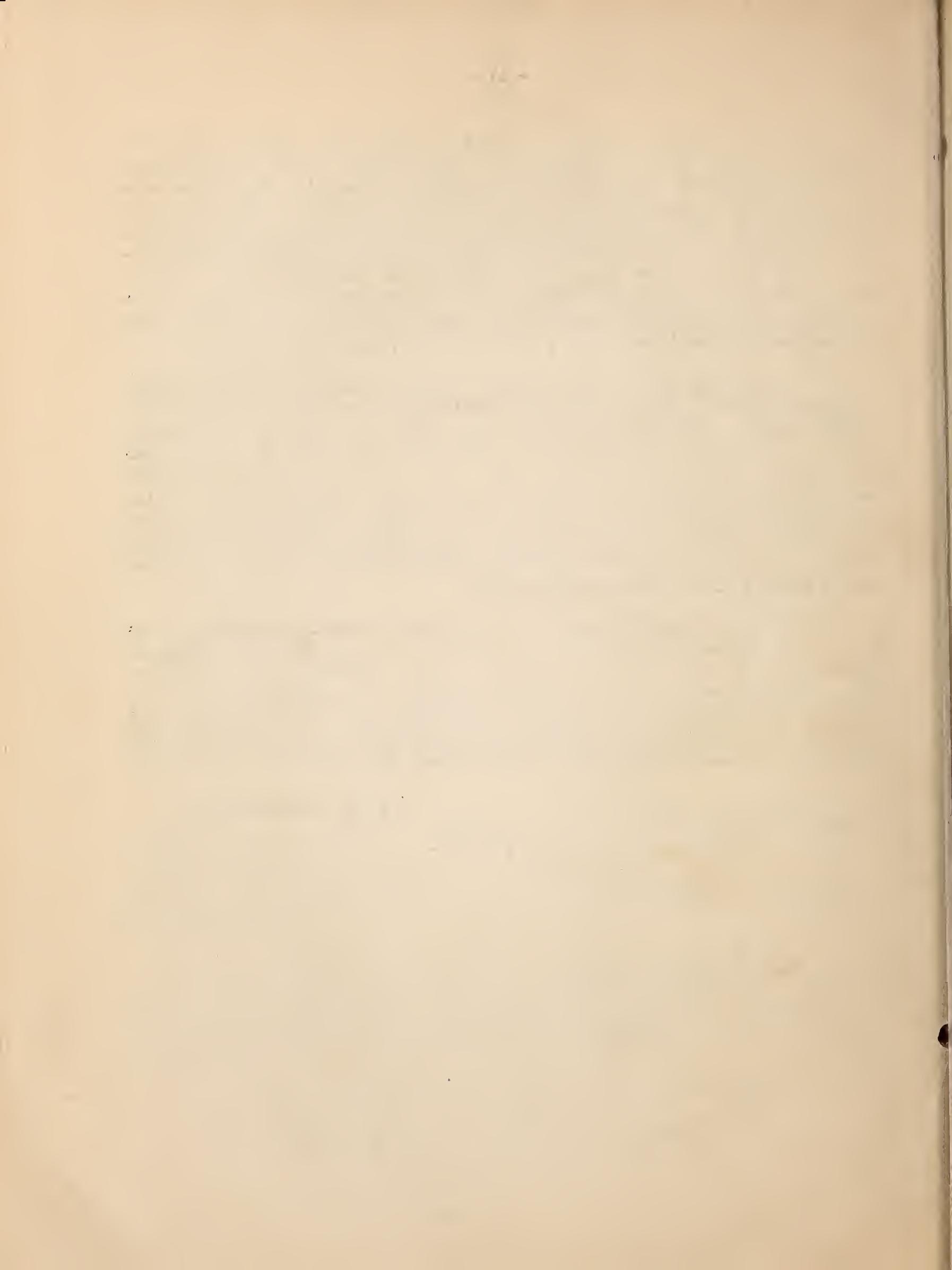
Mary M. Nicolls and J. H. Kolb attended the family relations conference which was held in Detroit, May 8 and 9, under the auspices of the Family Committee of the Social Research Council. The conference was held to hear and discuss preliminary reports from research projects concerned with Rural Family Relations. Two fellowships had been given for the previous two years by the National Council of Parents and Teachers. One fellow, Miss Dennis, was located at Cornell and the other, Miss Nicolls, at Wisconsin. Reports of their studies were made. These reports, together with discussion were made the basis for further plans of the Family Committee in its program of study and research.

The Second Annual Dane County Music Festival for Rural School children of Dane County was held in the new University Field House on Sunday, May 3. The Madison Kiwanis Club took the initiative and underwrote the enterprise financially. Cooperating with the Club were the Dane County Federation of Rural Clubs, the University School of Music, and the Rural Sociology Department of the College of Agriculture. Forty-five hundred rural children had been in training with experienced teachers for six weeks. Fifteen hundred were chosen to sing in the final chorus. The University Concert Band played several selections; solos were rendered by two individual artists.

The tenth annual Rural Pastor's Summer School convened at the College of Agriculture under the direction of J. H. Kolb who received recognition by the group for services at the closing of the session. More than 100 were in attendance representing 10 denominations and 20 states. Nine were awarded certificates for three year attendance at the school together with developing a project under direction of an official of his church group and instructors at the college.

E. L. Kirkpatrick.

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# FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM  
POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS.  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 1, 1931

Vol. V, No. 4.

## AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Twenty-sixth annual meeting of the American Sociological Society will be held in Washington, D.C., December 28 - 31, 1931. The program for the Section on Rural Sociology is as follows:

Monday, December 28, 12:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Joint Luncheon with the American Farm Economics Association.  
J. D. Black, Harvard University, presiding.

### The Human Factor in Agriculture:

"The Human Factor from the Viewpoint of Farm Management," C. L. Holmes, United States Department of Agriculture.

"The Human Factor from the Viewpoint of Social Relations," J. H. Kolb, University of Wisconsin.

Tuesday, December 29, 1:00 p.m.

### Second Section Meeting.

Dwight Sanderson, Cornell University, presiding.

### Methods of Studying the Social Processes in Rural Life:

"The Farm Family," E. L. Kirkpatrick, University of Wisconsin.

"The Rural Church," Howard Beers, Cornell University.

"Farmers' Co-operative Associations," R. C. Smith, Ohio State University.

Discussion led by C. E. Lively, Ohio State University.

Annual Business Meeting of the Section on Rural Sociology.

Wednesday, December 30, 1:00 p.m.

Third Section Meeting.

E. A. Ross, University of Wisconsin, presiding.

The Comparative Influence of Culture Patterns on Rural Social Processes in the United States and in the Orient:

"The Relationships of Mohammedan Culture Patterns to Social Processes in the Mohammedan Community of India," J. L. Hypes, Connecticut Agricultural College.

"The Influence of National Cultural Patterns on the Rural Life of Japan," Fred R. Yoder, State College of Washington.

"Contrast of Some Major Elements in the Social Pattern of Rural China and Rural America," W. A. Anderson, Cornell University.

"The Family and Village in India," Warren H. Wilson, Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

Discussion led by C. C. Taylor, North Carolina State College.

The papers to be presented before the Second and Third Section Meetings are already in print as Publication of the American Sociological Society, November, 1931, Volume XXV, No. 4. Copies may be secured from the Society's offices, 1126 E. Fifty-ninth Street, Chicago, Illinois.

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AMERICAN COUNTRY LIFE ASSOCIATION.

The next annual American Country Life Conference will be held in the early fall of 1932 at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the topic will be: "Rural Adult Education." The 1933 Conference will be held at Blacksburg, Virginia in connection with the Virginia Polytechnic Institute's annual Institute of Rural Affairs, and the topic will be "A National Policy for Agriculture and Rural Life."

The next convention of the International Country Life Commission will probably be held in Berne, Switzerland, in the summer of 1934. In this connection, a "rural pilgrimage" to Europe is being planned to offer opportunity for first-hand study of rural trends and conditions.

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RURAL SCOUTING.

On Saturday, October 31, the Rural Boy Scout Program was given an entire hour of radio broadcasting over the N.B.C. network. The program included a talk by Dr. James E. West, Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America, entitled, "Character Training for Rural Boys," and one by Dr. John H. Finley, Associate Editor of "The New York Times" entitled, "Scout Training for Farm Boys." Both addresses have been mimeographed and may be secured from the Boy Scouts of America, 2 Park Avenue, New York City.

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A FOLK SCHOOL IN LOUISIANA.

Richland Parish (County), Louisiana, has held three so-called annual folk schools beginning in 1929. Each lasted for five days. The programs were devised so as to provide something interesting and helpful for every member of the farm family. The objectives of this work are three-fold; first, to bring about more desirable living conditions; second, to help farm people to acquire a more wholesome respect for their occupation and its various opportunities; and third, to erase all dividing lines between city and country, or in the words of one reporter of these schools: "There must no longer be a class of 'country boobs' on the one hand and 'city guys' on the other, but all must be regarded as fellow workers at different parts of the same machinery."

Included in the programs were talks on farm production and management problems, home management and beautification, marketing, health, parenthood, cultural arts, and so on. Practical instruction in many handicraft activities was provided. Community singing, pageants, dramatics, games, and stunts were included for both instruction and recreation. Nurseries were maintained for infants; supervised playground and handicraft activities for children, and athletic contests and classes in dramatics and recreational leadership for young people.

School busses supplemented other means of transportation in bringing the farm people to the scenes of action each day. Attendance exceeded 3,000 on single days. These schools were held in July when farm work was not pressing.

Those who have seen the work and known the conditions of the parish both before and after are unanimous in their enthusiasm over the value of this educational experiment as one means of bringing better things to farm people. The "we-can-do-it-ourselves" idea has been at the bottom of most of this work, and while some outside talent has been brought in, the major emphasis is to stimulate local initiative and to use local resources as much as possible. A great deal of the instruction is of the vocational type - learning by doing.

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MEN OF EARTH.

This is a volume of short sketches of forty men and women concerned with farming. Most of them are "dirt farmers" or farmers' wives. They range in variety from a French peasant to one of the largest wheat growers in the United States. The agricultural extension service and the vocational agricultural teachers are also represented. Humor and pathos, accomplishment and tragedy appear in turn. While its style is journalistic, the rural sociologist will find much of interest in its contents. The author is Russell Lord, and the publishers, Longmans, Green, and Co.

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Local Government - England.

The Development of Local Government in England, by William A. Robson, is a thorough-going treatment of the subject from both the urban and rural viewpoints. In reading the volume one notes many parallels in conditions and problems with the American situation. The hold of traditionalism and corresponding unwillingness to make changes that strike at the roots of the present problems seems even greater than in this country, in spite of the fact that the English system is not founded upon constitutions that are difficult to change. The book is published by George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London.

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The County Court in Missouri.

"The Missouri County Court" by William L. Bradshaw, is an exhaustive study of the organization and functions of the county board of supervisors in Missouri. Students of rural local government will find it a most valuable contribution. It is published as The University of Missouri Studies, Volume VI, No. 2, April 1, 1931. Copies may be secured from the Librarian, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri.

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County Government in California.

The Final Report of the California Commission on County Home Rule, obtainable from the Governor's Office, Sacramento, California, is a 236 page analysis of existing county government of that State along with definite recommendations for changing the Constitution and for legislative enactments to reorganize county government along more efficient lines. The county reorganizations already effected in some States, especially where the county-manager plan has been introduced, are discussed in some detail.

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Village Standards of Living.

Standards of Living in the Village of Crozet, Virginia, by E. L. Kirkpatrick and Evelyn G. Tough is the title of a recent number of the University of Virginia Record Extension Series, University, Virginia. The data secured in this village are compared with standard of living studies of Virginia farmers and urban dwellers.

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#### FARMERS' STANDARD OF LIVING.

The most recent study to be published in this field comes from the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station, Lexington, Kentucky, as Bulletin 316. It is entitled, "The Standard of Living of Farm Families in Grayson County, Kentucky," by Merton Oyler.

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#### RURAL INTELLIGENCE.

"Rural Intelligence in Relation to Rural Population" by Charles D. Lewis (George Peabody College for Teachers, Publication No. 74, Nashville, Tenn.) contains the results of an investigation conducted in the Powell's Valley area of eastern Tennessee and western Virginia, six counties in middle Tennessee and Shelby County, Kentucky. In all, 915 homes were represented. Intelligence tests were used and considerable other data assembled during the progress of the survey. The intelligence tests used indicated lower median I. Q's. for farm than for village students in both high and elementary schools. A slight downward trend in average native ability was found to exist for the succeeding generation on farms. Other interesting trends are also indicated in the report.

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#### READING MATTER IN RURAL SCHOOLS.

The American Library Association, 520 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, has published a bulletin by Lucile F. Fargo entitled: The Superintendent Makes a Discovery (the Answer to the Rural School Reading Problem). The answer is the establishment of a county library service which may be financed in part by the several schools of the county. Suggested plans of cooperation between school and library authorities are included.

Library Extension News, published by the same organization, is a mimeographed circular appearing occasionally. It is devoted to rural needs and other specialized forms of library extension service.

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#### MEMBERSHIP PROBLEMS OF PURCHASING ASSOCIATIONS.

Bulletin 268, Pennsylvania State College Agricultural Experiment Station, by J. K. Stern, under the title "Membership Problems in Farmers' Cooperative Purchasing Associations," contains the results of a questionnaire survey of replies from 545 farmers who were interviewed personally concerning their experiences with six different cooperative purchasing associations in the eastern half of the State. In addition to the farmers' replies, a brief history is given of each association along with an appraisal of its strong and weak points and some specific changes are suggested.

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RURAL LEADERSHIP.

A study under this subject has been published by the Agricultural Experiment Station, Pullman, Washington, under the title Local Rural Leaders in Washington. It gives the results of a research project conducted in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The work was done by Harvey W. Starling and Fred R. Yoder.

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RURAL MIGRATION.

Selective Migration from Three Rural Vermont Towns and its Significance, is the title of the Fifth Annual Report of the Eugenics Survey of Vermont, 162 College Street, Burlington, Vermont. The report is based upon a survey made in 1930 - 1931 and contains numerous statistics and case examples of migration. It is a sociological as well as an eugenics survey.

Qualitative Selection in Cityward Migration by Wilson Gee and Dewees Runk appears in the American Journal of Sociology for September, 1931. This is a brief report of a survey of 120 white families in Albemarle County, Virginia. The authors found that their "upper social group sustained decidedly the largest proportionate loss to the cities, the middle group the next heaviest, and the lower group the least."

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THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY TO THE ISOLATED.

The above is the title of a booklet issued by the Church Missions House, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York City. The author is Edna Eastwood. While the publication is written from the viewpoint of one of the large denominations, it gives some thoughtful suggestions for reaching isolated rural areas.

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GERMAN AGRICULTURE.

The Advisory Committee on Agricultural Science, 10 Whitehall Place, London, S.W.I., has issued a report entitled "The Improvement in the Technique of Farm Processes in Germany" by Mr. J. Morgan Jones, Department of Agricultural Economics, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, Wales. The human side of farm and rural life receives some attention. It presents an important approach that has been studied but little in the United States.

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CHANGES IN RURAL TRADE CENTERS.

"Are Rural Services Obsolescent," is the title of an article in September, 1931 American Journal of Sociology by Victor A. Rapport. He concludes that rural residents are drawing more and more heavily upon larger towns and cities with a corresponding decrease in their patronage of facilities and services in the rural towns.

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RURAL-URBAN HEROISM IN MILITARY ACTION.

Wilson Gee has published some preliminary results of a survey on this subject in the Journal of Social Forces for October, 1931. He concludes that "in the absence of at present available data to the contrary, the rural private is somewhat braver than his urban brother of similar rank." Further investigation and analysis are promised by the author.

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RURAL SOCIOLOGY: A CHALLENGE OF THE TIMES.

The Sociological Review for July, 1931 published by the LePlay House Press, 65 Belgrave Road, Westminster, London, S.W.I., contains an article by Richard Kaysenbrecht having this title. The purpose of the article is to define the field of rural sociology and to indicate its opportunities in the present trends of economics, political science, sociology, and the natural sciences.

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NOTES FROM THE DIVISION OF FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE.

RECENT STUDIES INSTITUTED IN COOPERATION WITH THE  
DIVISION OF FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE.

Prof. W. F. Kumlien, S. D. State College of Agriculture, assisted by Paul H. Landis, is making in selected communities a study of "Town-Country Relationships in South Dakota." Prof. Kumlien will study certain economic and social relationships existing between town and country areas in South Dakota from the standpoint of their effect on community organization.

The State College of Washington is making a study of "The Flow of Rural

Population and Wealth to Urban Centers and the Flow of Urban Population and Wealth to Rural Areas." Dr. Fred R. Yoder, assisted by Mr. A. A. Smick, is conducting the study, the object being to discover the extent of farm migration from selected typical rural communities in Washington and to determine the flow of rural wealth from rural communities to urban communities by the transfer of property rights, by transfer of residence, inheritance of rural property, and the volume of mortgage indebtedness on rural property held by people of urban residence. Data will be obtained also concerning the flow of urban population and wealth to rural areas.

"Cycles of Family Development and Experiences in Relation to the Standards of Living and the Ability to Provide," is the title of a research project recently undertaken by the University of Wisconsin. Dr. E. L. Kirkpatrick is conducting the study. Certain localities in Dane, Dunn, Green, Langlade, Portage, Sawyer and Walworth Counties will be selected for the field work of this project.

"Rural Population Groups in Boone County," is a study recently undertaken by the University of Missouri. Some ten years ago a study of rural population groups was made in Boone County, Missouri, and published as Research Bulletin 74 from the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. It is the purpose of the study to ascertain how these changes are affecting community and neighborhood groups. It is proposed that the study will show not only the status of these groups now but it will also indicate the trends over a ten-year period. The project is in charge of E. L. Morgan, assisted by Henry J. Burt and Norman Gibson.

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#### FARMING POPULATION IN SOUTH AFRICA DECREASES

Dr. C. C. Taylor, Agricultural Attaché of the United States Department of Agriculture located at Pretoria, South Africa, has sent in the following statement of population changes in that country:

Returns from the census of May 1931, are now becoming available. One of the most striking results is the apparent urbanization of the population of this country. This is especially remarkable in view of the newness of the country and the vast areas of unsettled land. The Transvaal is the only province to show an increase in the rural population during the five-year interval since the previous census. This increase of 8.3 per cent was barely sufficient to offset decreases of 2.3 per cent in Cape Province, 3.2 per cent in Natal Province, and 4.1 per cent in the Orange Free State Province. On the other hand the urban population increased in all four provinces. The average increase being 14.7 per cent.

	Urban Population		Rural Population	
	Total Persons	% Increase	Total Persons	% Increase
Cape.	454,130	12.0	294,325	-2.3
Natal.	132,563	17.7	44,761	-3.2
Transvaal.	440,506	18.2	255,457	8.3
O.F. State.	92,116	8.5	113,208	-4.1
Total	1,119,415	14.7	707,751	.9

The foregoing figures are eloquent testimony to the fact that South Africa has not escaped the agricultural depression and that the inducement

to utilize more effectively the vast agricultural resources has been less attractive than urban industries. This bit of evidence is not essentially altered by the fact that a number of rural settlements have become small villages between 1926 and 1931, thereby altering the bases of classification of these people.

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DR. JAKOB E. LANGE LECTURES IN WASHINGTON.

Dr. Jakob E. Lange, Principal of the Peasants' Folk School, Odense, Denmark, gave his lecture on "The Folk High School and its Influence on Rural Life and Work" under the auspices of the Graduate School of the United States Department of Agriculture, on October 23. A large and interested audience asked so many questions following his address that the usual lecture period was extended half an hour to give Dr. Lange time to answer.

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DIRECTORY OF TEACHERS OF RURAL SOCIOLOGY.

The annual directory prepared by the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life giving the names and addresses of teachers offering courses in rural sociology in universities and colleges throughout the United States is being distributed. Copies may be secured by writing to the Division.

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NEWS NOTES SUBMITTED BY THE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

Mr. Dallas Mallison, who has been an assistant in Sociology at North Carolina State College, has been appointed graduate assistant.

In his address before the American Country Life Association, Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt announced the appointment of a Commission on Rural Homes, including three members of the staff of Cornell University - Dr. A. R. Mann, provost; Miss Flora Rose, director of the College of Home Economics; and Dr. Dwight Sanderson, Professor of Rural Social Organization.

Dwight Sanderson.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS.

Our chief activity in the State this year is meeting local committees of rural communities to plan community meetings built around interests of importance to farm people and to assist in local organization of farm people, and to this end are holding county meetings of such committees in more than forty counties before the first of March. The chief end in view is to make available to as large a number of farm people as possible cooperation in the Agricultural Extension program for 1932 as set up in a special circular. Interest and enthusiasm in this project tax our time and ability to the utmost. We are using as a basis for discussion in all of our county meetings the mimeographed circular on "Local Unit Organization." This has been based upon a study of local organization among farm people in Illinois, the first part of which has been mimeographed entitled, "Attitudes of 433 Farm People." The second part, still in manuscript form, is on the nature and functions of these local groups.

D. E. Lindstrom.

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI.

In September Prof. Walter Burr was appointed by the governor, Executive Secretary to a State Unemployment Commission. Arrangements have been made for his teaching and research work in order that he may give time to the work of the Commission.

*Not*  
In 1929 a project was started providing for the selection of ten communities with a view to observing trends in their activity and development over a ten-year period. Cooperation was secured in three communities the first year. A bulletin entitled, "Community Trends," Research Bulletin 161 by Henry J. Burt, is ready for distribution.

*Not*  
Last year a study in "Developments in Public Welfare in Missouri," was made by Prof. Walter Burr with the assistance of Mr. George Gemmell. The report of this study was the basis for a Doctor's dissertation presented by Mr. Gemmell and it is now being published.

*Not*  
Some four years ago Prof. Henry J. Burt built a tabulating machine known as the Selecto-meter which provides for making certain kinds of tabulation which have been hitherto impossible. The report on data tabulated on this machine is made in "The Analysis of Social Data," by Henry J. Burt, Research Bulletin 155.

In addition to the studies of community trends and population groups we have referred to, the research program at this station consists in projects pertaining to rural population, techniques in rural family case work, and a case

study of crippled children on farms in one county.

This year the University rounds out a full twenty-five years of training for social work. The major emphasis is now given to training for rural social work, this being made possible through the establishment in 1928 of a curriculum in Rural Public Welfare in the College of Agriculture. There are now some fifty students enrolled in this curriculum. Practice work is available in counties adjacent to the seat of the University which is supplemented by additional practice work in such cities as Kansas City, St. Louis and Chicago.

E. L. Morgan.

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

Dr. C. E. Lively has returned from a year's leave at the University of Minnesota. While there he prepared a manuscript on "The Growth and Decline of Farm Trade Centers in Minnesota, 1905-1930," to be published by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station. He has also recently published two papers: "The Appearance and Disappearance of Minor Trade Centers in Minnesota, 1905-1930;" in Social Forces for October, 1931, and "Changes and Trends in Rural Neighborhood Life," in the Proceedings of the National Conference of Social Work for 1931.

A mimeographed bulletin on "Some Trends in Rural Social Organization in Four Ohio Counties," by E. D. Tetreau, R. C. Smith and J. P. Schmidt, is now ready for distribution. It gives a historical sketch of the organization developments, preparatory to more detailed study.

Mr. P. G. Beck has returned from a year's leave and graduate study at the University of Wisconsin. He is now engaged in a study of the new population data for Ohio made available by the 1930 Census.

A new bulletin of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station entitled "Movement of Open Country Population in Ohio: II. The Individual Aspect," has just been distributed. The authors are P. G. Beck and C. E. Lively. This bulletin concludes the series of printed and mimeographed bulletins which has been issued from the Ohio Station on this subject. The Station number is 489.

C. E. Lively.

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE.

Mr. A. C. Seymour, who holds the Master's degree from the University of Tennessee, with additional graduate work at Cornell, has been appointed Assistant Rural Sociologist at Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Professor C. E. Allred and S. W. Atkins, assisted by Jos. A. Elliott, G. D. Collins, Jr., and J. C. Powell, postgraduate students, are engaged in research in rural sociology and related fields. Three projects are now in progress, as follows:

1. An inventory of the social facilities and agencies of rural Tenn.
2. An inventory of the rural government facilities and agencies in Tenn.
3. The types and quantities of protein consumption by rural families.

C. E. Allred.

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AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE OF TEXAS.

The depression does not seem to have hit the Rural Sociology Department at Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College. At least we have a healthy increase in enrollment this session. Especially has the number of graduate students increased. At the present time we have seven graduate students majoring in Rural Sociology.

Daniel Russell.

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